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General Assembly
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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Promotion and protection of human rights

The rule of law at the national and international levels

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Letter dated 12 August 2013 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions received from the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, addressed to you in connection with ongoing illegal activities of the Republic of Armenia in the Daghlyq Garabagh (Nagorno-Karabakh) region and other occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, including the transfer and resettlement of Syrian Armenians in those territories.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 39, 67, 69 and 83, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tofig Musayev
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 12 August 2013 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Letter dated 19 July 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to an extremely important issue related to the situation in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In my previous letters I have already informed you that Armenia, taking advantage of the ceasefire regime, continues to undertake efforts to illegally change the demographic, cultural and physical character of the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, including but not limited to establishing new settlements, restoring the airport, building residential areas, highways, etc., thus gravely violating the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and other applicable norms and principles of international humanitarian law.

Armenia falsifies and illegally changes the original toponyms in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. According to mass media reports, Armenia also is about to start the construction of a 150-apartment building in Qubadly (Azerbaijan), as well as the Kalbajar (Azerbaijan) to Vardanis (Armenia) highway. Both Qubadly and Kalbajar are occupied districts located beyond the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

Armenia continues its illegal policy of transfer and resettlement of Syrian Armenians in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. Our reliable sources confirm that most recently 24 Armenian families have been resettled in Lachin, 7 in Zangilan, and 27 in Kalbajar (the list of resettled persons is enclosed).* Additional 18 Armenian families from Syria will soon be transferred into the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. This demonstrates the real intention of Armenia, which uses the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria for consolidation of its occupation of Azerbaijani territories.

By abusing the negotiation process and carrying out illegal activities in the occupied Azerbaijani territories, Armenia attempts to impose a fait accompli, thus undermining the prospects of a negotiated settlement of the conflict and restoration of peace and security in the region.

In the light of the lack of progress in the negotiation process the illegal actions in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan reveal Armenia's destructive position aimed at annexation of these territories.

In previous years, on our initiative, two missions have been dispatched to the occupied territories of Azerbaijan under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group, which, inter alia, documented numerous violations of the norms and principles of international humanitarian law therein.

But, as you may see, the position of the international community, including the urgent call by the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs to stop such illegal activities, has not succeeded in discouraging Armenia from its destructive policy. As a result,

* The list of names is available for consultation in the Secretariat.

Armenia continues to disregard the position of the international community, violate international law and abuse the patience of Azerbaijan. Since efforts to negotiate with Armenia through political means give no results, the further continuation of the status quo may lead to unpredictable consequences, full responsibility for which rests with Armenia.

In the light of the above-mentioned, I urge you to take all necessary measures at your disposal to stop Armenia's illegal activities in the occupied territories.

(*Signed*) Elmar **Mammadyarov**